

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON

A NEW FLEA FROM ALASKA

BY H. E. EWING.

Among the Siphonaptera material recently donated to the United States National Museum by Dr. E. A. Chapin is a slide containing two specimens of a very peculiar species of *Amphipsylla*, which is here described as new.

Amphipsylla hadweni, new species.

Female.—Front margin of head broadly and almost evenly rounded; frontal tubercle triangular, acuminate. Frons with two rows of setae; in the front row there are four subequal moderate setae, in the back row two very long ones, the seta nearest the eye being the longest. Occiput with three large setae near the lower angle and a marginal row of about five shorter setae on each side. Eye large, subcircular and heavily pigmented. Maxillary palpi equal in length to the five-segmented labial palpi.

Pronotum equal to the mesonotum; pronotal comb composed of about twelve very short pale teeth on each side. Metanotum distinctly smaller than either the pronotum or the mesonotum.

Abdomen long; typical tergites each with three or four rows of transverse setae, the posterior row being composed of much the largest setae. Three to four small apical spines on the first three abdominal segments. Antepygial setae stout, spinelike; one or two on each side. Seventh abdominal tergite with a small apical process extending backward between the two sets of antepygial setae. Receptaculum seminis with moderate, subspherical head and a sausage-shaped tail which is slightly longer than the head diameter.

Legs normal; tibiae III each with a transverse apical row of from three to four setae on the anterior margin and a transverse subapical row of three setae. First segment of tarsus III about a fourth longer than second; second about a third longer than third; third and fourth together about equal to fifth.

Length, 2.8 mm.

Type host and type locality.—*Xema sabini* from Puffin Island, Alaska.

Type.—Cat. No. 40349, U. S. N. M.

Described from two females taken August 6, 1920, by S. Hadwen from Sabine's gull, *Xema sabini*, at Puffin Island, Alaska. This species differs from *A. pollionis* (Rothschild), the only previously recorded species of *Amphipsylla* from North America, in the shape of the head, the number of rows of setae on the frons and in a number of other ways. In some important respects, like that of the number of antepygidial setae, it differs from all other species of the genus.